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PATENT APPLICATION
Q63051

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Toru TSUKADA, et al.

Appln. No.: 09/809,262

Confirmation No.: 6379

Filed: March 16, 2001

For: FEED SCREW DEVICE

Group Art Unit: 3682

Examiner: Chong Hwa KIM

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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MAY 23 2003
GROUP 3600

Sir:

The undersigned attorney hereby states that, based upon information and belief:

No item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and, to the knowledge of the undersigned attorney after making a reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CFR §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven M. Gruskin
Registration No. 36,818

for

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WASHINGTON OFFICE



23373

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

Date: May 19, 2003

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§1.97 AND 1.98**

MAIL STOP AF

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants hereby notify the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the document listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) that the Examiner may deem material to the patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

One copy of the listed document is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after either a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), but before payment of the Issue Fee and, therefore, Applicants are submitting herewith a check for the fee of \$180.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p), and a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e). The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all additional required fees (except the Issue Fee and/or the Publication Fee) to our Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please

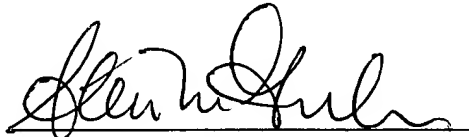
also credit any overpayment to said Deposit Account. A duplicate copy of this paper is also attached hereto.

In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicants submit the following explanations:

JP '452 is a priority document corresponding to Yabe et al. (USP 6,004,039), which was cited by the Examiner. The other priority document for Yabe et al. apparently was not published. An English language abstract of JP '452 is also attached.

The submission of the listed document is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application. Applicants do not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove the listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,



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